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New species.....	6
New subspecies.....	1
New combinations.....	14
	<hr/>
	21

The book contains xiii + 418 pages, including a glossary and an index, is printed on good paper and clear type, bound in cloth, and the printers can be complimented as well as the authors.

The book will be an excellent guide to the flora of the western slopes of the Cascades, and, without doubt, will be greeted with pleasure by all flower-lovers in the region and to anyone who has the opportunity to visit that part of the Pacific slope. It is technical enough to train the student for the use of more elaborate systematic works, and not at all too technical to be used with advantage in the high-schools. Many of the so-called "flower books" written mostly by young ladies are too "popular" in style to give the student any training in science, and usually so inaccurate and erroneous in their statements that they are in many respects more harmful than useful. The book is conservative enough in the better sense of the word but progressive enough to keep up with the development of taxonomy in the last thirty years. It does not contain any new freak notion concerning limitation of species and nomenclature, as some books lately published on western botany have, but is sane in its treatment. While the reviewer's ideas differ in individual cases from the treatment in the new work, the general impression he has received from the book is most pleasing. The same can be said of two other local floras of the Pacific coast, Abram's Flora of Los Angeles County, California, and Hall's Flora of the Yosemite Valley.

P. A. RYDBERG

**Massee's Diseases of Cultivated Plants and Trees\***

The first edition of this now well-known textbook of plant diseases was published in 1910. A second edition has recently appeared, printed from the old plates and identical but for the addition of a sixteen-page supplement. In this supplement

\* Massee, G. Diseases of Cultivated Plants and Trees. Pp. I-XII + 1-618. Figs. 1-173. Macmillan Co., 1915. Price \$2.25.

additional facts of interest are given with reference to diseases previously mentioned in the text, and several diseases not before listed are discussed. Of the latter may be mentioned apple mildew due to *Podosphaera leucotricha* Salmon, black knot of birch caused by *Plowrightia virgultorum* Saccardo, tomato fruit rot due to *Phoma destructiva* Plowright, yellow stripe of hyacinths caused by *Bacterium hyacinthi* Wakker, and mosaic disease of potatoes, tomatoes, and tobacco. No attempt has been made by the author to revise and bring up to date the facts given in the body of the text. Many of these are in consequence incorrect or incomplete.

The present work although prepared along similar lines to the "textbook of plant diseases," the first edition of which was published by the author in 1899 is considerably larger and has a wider scope. It contains, in addition to the remarks upon fungous, bacterial, and slime mould diseases of plants, chapters on injuries due to frost, hail, wind, smoke, gas fumes, mites, nematodes, birds, animals, and man. There are also brief chapters on fungicides, spraying, soil-bacteriology, chlorosis, mycorrhiza, biologic species, phanerogamic parasites, so-called physiological diseases, and injuries due to non-parasitic organisms. The author endeavors to treat not only the diseases of Great Britain and continental Europe but also the important diseases of the tropics, and certain of those occurring in the United States. The discussion of each disease embraces a description of its more characteristic symptoms, certain facts of interest regarding the causal organism, and suggestions on control measures. The number of diseases included is very large, it would seem perhaps unnecessarily so, and uncommon maladies are frequently given more space than better known or more destructive ones. As a compilation of facts bearing upon a large number of plant diseases the book must be given a place among the first two or three manuals available in English. It has however certain limitations and certain faults which render it to a degree unsatisfactory. This is particularly true from the standpoint of the American student of plant pathology.

When the first edition of this text appeared in 1910 it was

evident that the author had given but little attention to the American literature. Many diseases of importance in the United States are not mentioned in the book, and the discussion of those included is in numerous cases inadequate. The citations to American literature are comparatively few. It may be fairly stated that many facts developed within the past ten years which fall rightly within the limits of the subject matter presented are omitted. This is especially noticeable as regards methods of control.

While the book serves a useful purpose as a general reference work in a field on which few good texts have been prepared its usefulness is distinctly limited. It is to be regretted that the author has not been able to thoroughly revise the text and bring the subject matter up to date. The pages are marred by numerous minor inaccuracies which should have been eliminated.

HARRY M. FITZPATRICK

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

FEBRUARY 23, 1916

The meeting of February 23 was held in the morphological laboratory of the New York Botanical Garden at 3:30 P.M. President Harper presided. Twenty-two persons were present.

The minutes of February 8 were read and approved.

Mr. James H. Jones, 315 E. Fordham Road, N. Y. City, was nominated for membership.

The question of the adoption of the proposed amendments of the Constitution was next considered. A formal vote on the adoption of the amendments was then taken, the result being ten votes in favor of, and eight against the amendments. A two-thirds vote of those present being necessary for their adoption the amendments were declared rejected.

Mr. James H. Jones was then elected to membership.

The announced scientific program consisted of a paper on "The Agriculture of the Punjab," by Mr. R. R. Stewart.

A second paper by Dr. F. W. Pennell on "First Impressions of the Rockies" was postponed.

Meeting adjourned.

MICHAEL LEVINE,  
*Secretary pro tem.*